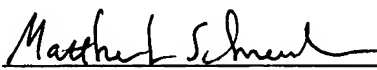


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| Substitute for Form PTO-1390 | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 001560-521 U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/525501 (Only known see 37 CFR 1.5) |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2003/010525 | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 20 August 2003 (20.08.2003) | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 23 August 2002 (23.08.2002) | |
| TITLE OF INVENTION PINCH VALVE | | | |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US TOMIOKA, Miki; and HANADA, Toshihiro; | | | |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: | | | |
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission to items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (22) indicated below. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). | | | |
| Items 11 to 21 below concern document(s) or information included: | | | |
| 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <u>General Authorization for Petitions for Extensions of Time and Payment of Fees; Application Data Sheet; and PCT/ISA/210</u> | | | |

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|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/525501 | | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2003/010525 | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 001560-521 | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|

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|---|-------------------------|--------------|------|-------------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------|--------------|--------------|------|----|--|--------------|----|-------|---|------------------|---------|--------------------|---|------|---|-------------------|---------|---|--|--|--|-------------------|--|-----------------|--|--|--|-------------------|-----------|------------|--|--|--|-------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-------------|--|--|--|--|---|---------|------------|--|--|--|--|-------------|---|--|--|--|--|---------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|-------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|-------------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|--|
| <p>21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant(s) requests that the published application include the following assignment information: <u>ASAHI ORGANIC CHEMICALS INDUSTRY CO., LTD., Nobeoka-shi, Miyazaki, Japan</u></p> <p>22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Basic Filing Fee (1631)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 300.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Surcharge of \$130.00 (1617) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">CLAIMS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NUMBER FILED</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NUMBER EXTRA</td> <td style="text-align: center;">RATE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-20 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X \$50.00 (1615)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-3 =</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X \$200.00 (1614)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ \$360.00 (1616)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Examination Fee</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ \$200.00 (1633)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Search Fee</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+ \$500.00 (1632)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">App. Size Fee (add \$250.00 for each add'l 50 sheets exceeding 100 sheets)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL =</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Processing fee of \$130.00 (1618) for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (8021) per property +</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Amount to be refunded :</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">charged :</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u> in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>02-4800</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge <u>\$ 1,000.00</u> to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.</p> <p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p>Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P. P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;">  SIGNATURE _____ Matthew L. Schneider NAME _____ 32,814 February 23, 2005 REGISTRATION NO. DATE </div> </div> | Basic Filing Fee (1631) | | | | \$ 300.00 | | Surcharge of \$130.00 (1617) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). | | | | | | CLAIMS | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | \$ | | Total Claims | 12 | -20 = | 0 | X \$50.00 (1615) | \$ 0.00 | Independent Claims | 1 | -3 = | 0 | X \$200.00 (1614) | \$ 0.00 | MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) | | | | + \$360.00 (1616) | | Examination Fee | | | | + \$200.00 (1633) | \$ 200.00 | Search Fee | | | | + \$500.00 (1632) | \$ 500.00 | App. Size Fee (add \$250.00 for each add'l 50 sheets exceeding 100 sheets) | | | | | | TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2. | | | | + | \$ 0.00 | SUBTOTAL = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | Processing fee of \$130.00 (1618) for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | | | | \$ 0.00 | TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (8021) per property + | | | | | | TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | Amount to be refunded : | | | | | | charged : | |
| Basic Filing Fee (1631) | | | | \$ 300.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 (1617) for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLAIMS | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Claims | 12 | -20 = | 0 | X \$50.00 (1615) | \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Independent Claims | 1 | -3 = | 0 | X \$200.00 (1614) | \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) | | | | + \$360.00 (1616) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examination Fee | | | | + \$200.00 (1633) | \$ 200.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Search Fee | | | | + \$500.00 (1632) | \$ 500.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| App. Size Fee (add \$250.00 for each add'l 50 sheets exceeding 100 sheets) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2. | | | | + | \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SUBTOTAL = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 (1618) for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | | | | \$ 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 (8021) per property + | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = | | | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Amount to be refunded : | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | charged : | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | |
| |) | |
| Miki Tomioka et al. |) | Group Art Unit: |
| |) | |
| Application No.: |) | Examiner: |
| |) | |
| Filed: February 23, 2005 |) | Confirmation No.: |
| |) | |
| For: PINCH VALVE |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR PETITIONS
FOR EXTENSIONS OF TIME AND PAYMENT OF FEES

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3), the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby provided with a general authorization to treat any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as containing a request therefor for the appropriate length of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: February 23, 2005

By: Matthew L. Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620